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IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: Oct 18, 2018

ENVELOPE

RTTUZYUW RUEKJCS1560 0702257-UUUU--RUCDGDA.
ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R
112257Z MAR 83
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/PTC WASH DC
RUCJAAA/USCINCRED MACDILL AFB FL//RCJ2//
RUEOAYB/FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA
RUCDGDA/CDRMICOM REDSTONE ARS AL//DRSMI-YX//
R
112027Z MAR 83
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6666
INFO RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 1165
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1762
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 2518
RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0726
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1624
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02

BUENOS AIRES 01560

ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN
E.O. 12356 DECL OADR
/******** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ********/

BODY

TAGS SHUM, AR, BE, FR, IT, SP, SZ, VT
SUBJ LATEST HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN ARGENTINA
1. SUMMARY THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO RETURNED TO ARGENTINA ON MARCH 10 AFTER THEIR EUROPEAN TOUR, AND STATED THAT FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF ITALY GUILIO ANDREOTTI WOULD COME TO ARGENTINA WITH AN INVESTIGATING COMMISSION. A MEMBER OF THE PERONIST YOUTH TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MARCH 10 THAT HE HAD BEEN ABDUCTED AND TORTURED ON MARCH 4 BY ARMED MEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES. A JOURNALIST HAD HIS HOME

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TAR BOMBED, HIS CAR DAMAGED, AND INSCRIPTIONS WRITTEN ACROSS THE FRONT OF HIS HOUSE CALLING HIM A "MONTONERO SUBVERSIVE DELINQUENT" ON MARCH 10. END SUMMARY.

2. THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MOTHERS HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION RETURNED TO ARGENTINA AFTER THEIR SIX-NATION EUROPEAN TOUR DURING WHICH THEY WERE RECEIVED BY THE POPE AND THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM, FRANCE, ITALY AND SPAIN. ON ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES, THE TWO MOTHERS TOLD THE PRESS THAT SPANISH PRIME MINISTER FELIPE GONZALEZ HAD ASKED THEM WHAT HE COULD DO TO BE USEFUL; OTHER (UNNAMED) MINISTERS HAD SAID THAT "EVEN IF THERE IS A POLITICAL COST INVOLVED, EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WILL BE DONE (TO HELP)"; THE FRENCH MINISTER OF JUSTICE HAD CALLED IN ASSISTANTS TO LOOK FOR LAWS THAT WOULD ALLOW THE FRENCH TO HELP; ITALIAN PRESIDENT SANDRO PERTINI "WOULD MAKE A PUBLIC APPEAL FROM ONE PRESIDENT TO ANOTHER" AND FORMER ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER GUILIO ANDREOTTI "WILL COME TO THE COUNTRY WITH A COMMISSION" PRESUMABLY TO INVESTIGATE THE DISAPPEARANCES OF ITALIAN CITIZENS. THE MOTHERS SAID THAT DURING THEIR TWO-AND-A-HALF MINUTE MEETING WITH THE POPE THEY HAD ASKED HIM TO MAKE AS MUCH OF AN EFFORT FOR ARGENTINA AS HE DID FOR POLAND, AND THAT THEY HAD TOLD HIM THEY HAD ASKED FOR THE CHURCH'S HELP BUT HAD BEEN LEFT ALONE. THEY MEANT THE CHURCH IN ARGENTINA, OF WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN CRITICAL IN THE PAST. THEY ALSO SAID THAT "THE (UN) HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE HAS DONE NOTHING."

3. HUMBERTO LUIS RAFFATELLA TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ARRANGED BY THE CENTER FOR LEGAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES (CELS) ON MARCH 10 THAT AFTER HE LEFT A PERONIST YOUTH MEETING ON MARCH 4, A GROUP OF ARMED MEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES ABDUCTED AND TORTURED HIM FOR MORE THAN SIX HOURS. ONE OF THE ABDUCTORS REPORTEDLY TOLD RAFFATELLA THAT "YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO THINK THAT THE (INTELLIGENCE) SERVICES CAN'T REPRESS ANYMORE - THIS SHOULD SHOW YOU DIFFERENTLY."

4. BUENOS AIRES NEWSPAPERS OF MARCH 11 CARRIED STORIES BASED ON RAFFATELLA'S PRESS CONFERENCE, WITH THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BA HERALD MAKING THE STORY ITS FRONT-PAGE LEAD, EVEN ABOVE PRESIDENT BIGNONE'S SPEECH AT THE NAM SUMMIT MEETING IN NEW DELHI. THE SPANISH-LANGUAGE PAPERS GAVE THE STORY FAR LESS COVERAGE, AND PLAYED IT IN A MUCH LOWER KEY.

5. WITH THE HELP OF CELS LAWYERS, RAFFATELLA FILED A COMPLAINT WITH A JUDGE ASKING FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF THE CRIMES OF ILLEGAL DETENTION, TORTURE, AND THE ILLEGAL USE OF FIREARMS. HE ALSO ASKED THE JUDGE TO DETERMINE

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IF THERE WAS ANY OFFICIAL ORDER TO ARREST OR DETAIN HIM. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THERE HAS BEEN NO RESULT FROM THOSE ACTIONS TO DATE, AND A MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIAL DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE CASE WITH THE PRESS OVER THE TELEPHONE.

6. ALSO ON MARCH 10, JOURNALIST RODOLFO AUDI HAD HIS HOME TARRED, HIS CAR DAMAGED, AND THE FRONT OF HIS HOUSE MARKED UP WITH INSCRIPTIONS CALLING HIM A "MONTONERO SUBVERSIVE DELINQUENT." NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED, BUT THE HOUSE WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN DAMAGED BY A FIRE THAT BROKE OUT DURING THE ATTACK. AUDI IS PRESS SECRETARY FOR THE UNITY, SOLIDARITY AND ORGANIZATION MOVEMENT, THE PERONIST FACTION LED BY ANTONIO CAFIERO.

7. COMMENT EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS OF THE MOTHERS' EUROPEAN TRIP IS MORE THAN GRATIFYING TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT HERE. IT HAS CAST IT AS A TRIUMPH FOR THE CAUSE. BUT CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL CIRCLES AND THE MILITARY HAVE TAKEN IT BADLY. THE FUFEPO GROUPING OF PROVINCIAL AND SMALL CENTER PARTIES IDENTIFIED BT

/****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 ******
WITH THE "PROCESS" HAS PUBLICLY CRITICIZED THE TRIP AS A DISSERVICE TO ARGENTINA. MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE VOCIFEROUS, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE WITHHELD PUBLIC COMMENT. THEY ARE ESPECIALLY AFFRONTED BECAUSE, AS SOME HAVE TOLD US, THE MOTHERS' "FIRST-CLASS" TRAVEL AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRIP WERE FUNDED BY U.S. AND EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS . SHLAUDEMAN

ADMIN

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